



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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Contact: Amanda Wherry/Jacqueline Kannan
Phone: (919) 733-5612

EASLEY APPOINTS TEACHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley has appointed 18 members to the Teacher Advisory Committee. The committee's first meeting was on Thursday (June 14) and those who attended were sworn in by Judge Bob Hunter of Marion.

Easley appointed **Brian Ethridge** of Raleigh, a teacher at Timber Drive Elementary School in Wake County; **Melanie Champion** of Holden Beach, a physical education teacher at South Brunswick Middle School in Brunswick County; **Harriette Davis** of Durham, a math teacher at Hillside High School in Durham County; **Ann Franklin** of Weaverville, a special needs teacher at the Buncombe County Association of Educators; **Yang Li** of Sunbury, a teacher at T.S. Cooper Elementary School in Gates County; **Noel Grady-Smith** of Winston-Salem, a dance teacher at Mineral Spings Middle School in Forsyth County; **Shirley Harris** of Troy, a language arts teacher at West Montgomery High School in Montgomery County; **Sally Meserole** of Wilmington, a middle school physical education teacher and coach in New Hanover County; **Laverne Steadman** of Charlotte, a math teacher at Providence High School in Mecklenburg County; and **John Waszak** of Chapel Hill, a teacher at New Hope Elementary School in Orange County.

Easley reappointed **Jim Brooks** of Millers Creek, an English teacher at West Wilkes High School in Wilkes County; **Danny Bland** of Durham, a business education teacher at Riverside High School in Durham County; **Marshall Matson** of Tarboro, a social studies teacher at C.B. Martin Middle School in Edgecombe County; **Beth Murph** of China Grove, a teacher at Mooresville Middle School in Iredell County; and **Laura Bilbro-Berry** of Washington, an elementary school teacher in Beaufort County and the 2000-2001 North Carolina Teacher of the Year.

The other members include **Dianne Jackson** of Pittsboro, a media specialist at Glenwood Elementary School in Orange County and the current American Federation of Teachers president; **Carolyn McKinney**, a middle school teacher in Forsyth County and North Carolina Association of Educators president; and **Carmen Wilson** of Deep Gap, a math teacher at Ashe County High School and the 2001-2002 North Carolina Teacher of the Year.

The Teacher Advisory Committee has a total of 20 members, who are all appointed by the Governor. The committee advises the Governor on matters concerning the experiences and reactions of teachers across the state and assists him on efforts to improve teaching and learning. The committee also identifies, recognizes and celebrates those schools that take responsible risks to improve educational outcomes for children. The members serve one-year terms.